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Mafia Man Gunned Down In Brooklyn

NEW YORK (AP)— Shot five times in the face, Thomas "Tommy Ryan" Eboli, top Mafia figure and underboss for the late Vito Genovese, was found dead early Sunday in what police indicated was a gangland slaying.

Police said Eboli, 61, apparently had been taken "for a ride" by other mobsters and was cut down in a burst of gunfire as he struggled to get out of the car.

His body, clad in a blue jumpsuit, was found sprawled on a sidewalk in the quiet Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, surrounded by broken, bloodstained glass from a car window. Police said he had more than $2,000, mostly in $100 bills on him.

They theorized that when Eboli realized what was about to happen, he tried to force his way from the car. They said at least two shots from a small caliber gun hit him while he still was in the vehicle.

They said the shooting occurred at about 1 a.m.

A witness told authorities that at about that time, he saw flashes near a truck in the area and heard a man say, "let's get out of here."

The truck, apparently stolen, was found abandoned with its engine running about a block from Eboli's body.

Police said they also found a .45-caliber M-3 machine gun with a silencer in a car registered to a Newark, N.J., owner and parked near the murder scene.

They were unable to determine immediately whether either the truck or machine gun was connected to the shooting.

Police said Eboli might have been shot while riding in his own car, a blue, late-model Cadillac with New Jersey license plates.

The murder of Eboli was the latest in a series of shootings involving reputed underworld figures which began over a year ago with the wounding of Joseph A. Colombo Sr.

REPUTED UNDERWORLD FIGURE SLAIN – The bullet-riddled body of reputed underworld figure Thomas, "Tommy Ryan" Eboli, above, was found early Sunday on a Brooklyn, New York Sidewalk.–(AP Wirephoto)